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Dated: April 5, 2004

Signature: Linda A. Bourg)

(Linda A. Bourg)

Docket No.: HO-P02246US0

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

David L. Becker et al.

Application No.: 09/890,363

Filed: January 27, 2000

Art Unit: 1635

For: FORMULATIONS COMPRISING ANTISENSE

NUCLEOTIDES TO CONNEXINS

Examiner: S. McGarry

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed January 6, 2004, applicant hereby provisionally elects Group VII, claims 20-23, and 26, for continued examination, with traverse.